(d) whether Gujarati Programmes are not being telecast by Doordarshan; and

(e) whether all the Panchayats have been provided with television sets for the people, if not, by what time all the villages will be provided television sets in Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) :(a) TV service, at present, is estimated to be available to about 76.8 per cent population of Gujarat, inclusive of population in fringe areas.

(b) Besides, the Doordarshan Kendras at Ahmedabad (High Power Transmitter with studio facilities) and High Power Transmitters at Rajkot with Programme Generation facility and Dwarka, 28 Low Power Transmitters and a Very Low Power T.V. Transmitter, are presently functioning in Gujarat.

(c) TV service in the country is being expanded in a phased manner, depending on availability of resources. With the commissioning of various transmitter projects under implementation/envisaged to be set up about 94 per cent population of Gujarat is expected to be brought under TV coverage, including the population in fringe areas, Extension of TV coverage to the remaining uncovered population would depend on availability of sources in the future plans of TV expansion.

(d) No, Sir. The various High Power & Low Power T.V. transmitters in Gujarat are linked to Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad for relay of regional service programmes, besides relaying national service programmes fed from Delhi via satellite.

(e) Provision of community viewing sets in the responsibility of the concerned State Government.

TIME ALLOTTED FOR TELECASTING TAMIL PROGRAMMES IN DELHI

2637. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN :

SHRI MISRA R. GANESAN :

SHRI I. S. RAJU :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the time allotted for Tamil programmes in Delhi;

(b) whether Government have taken steps to hold Tamil Classes through TV transmission; and

(c) if so, what is the time allotted for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No Specific time has been allotted for Tamil programmes by Doordarshan Kendra Delhi. It, however, telecasts programme in regional languages including Tamil in its regional language chunck.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

EIGHT INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL

2638. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news item in the Economic Times dated 5th December, 1993, captioned "the Adults ran off with it";

(b) whether it is a fact that the Eighth International children's film festival was hijacked by adults ; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for side lining children and their participation in the Eighth International Children's film festival ?